

CLAIMS

- 1 1. An apparatus operative for gathering yard refuse from a ground
2 surface, said apparatus comprising:
3 a gathering device having a frame and a motor, said frame supporting
4 an elongated rotor having a longitudinal axis, said elongated rotor being
5 disposed with a plurality of spaced apart tines extending perpendicular to the
6 longitudinal axis, said elongated rotor driven by said motor, said tines
7 operative to gather yard refuse from the ground surface when rotating and
8 being moved over the ground surface;
9 a pair of wheels operative to support said frame on the ground surface;
10 an adjustment mechanism disposed between said pair of wheels and
11 said frame to adjust the position of the elongated rotor with respect to the
12 ground surface; and
13 a basket for holding the yard refuse collected from the ground surface
14 by the gathering device.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the gathering device further
2 comprises a shield for preventing the collected yard refuse from being ejected
3 out from said gathering device.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the tines include distal ends
2 that are bent outwardly toward a direction of rotation of the elongated rotor.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the basket is a hinged basket
2 adapted to be selectably attachable to the gathering device.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the tines have a diameter of
2 ½-1½ inches and a length of 5-9 inches.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the gathering device is further
2 operative for thatching a lawn.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the elongated rotor is 36-108
2 inches in length.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the elongated rotor is
2 selectably attachable to the gathering device.

1 9. An apparatus adapted to be towed by a vehicle and operative for
2 gathering yard refuse from a ground surface, said apparatus comprising:

3 a gathering device having a frame that supports an elongated rotor and a
4 motor in communication with said elongated rotor, said elongated rotor having
5 a plurality of spaced apart tines and mounted to said frame to be rotatably
6 driven by said motor, said tines operative to gather yard refuse from the ground
7 surface when rotating and being towed over the ground surface;

8 a pair of wheels operative to support said frame on the ground surface;

9 an adjustment mechanism disposed between said pair of wheels and
10 said frame to adjust the position of the elongated rotor with respect to the
11 ground surface; and
12 a basket for holding the yard refuse collected from the ground surface
13 by the gathering device.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the gathering device further
2 comprises a shield for preventing the collected yard refuse from being ejected
3 out from said gathering device.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the tines include distal ends
2 that are bent outwardly toward a direction of rotation of the rotor.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the basket is a hinged basket
2 adapted to be selectably attachable to the gathering device.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the elongated rotor is
2 selectably attachable to the gathering device.

1 14. An apparatus adapted to be towed by a vehicle and operative for
2 gathering sticks from a ground surface, said apparatus comprising:
3 a gathering device having a frame that supports an elongated rotor and a
4 motor in communication with said elongated rotor, said elongated rotor having

5 a plurality of spaced apart tines and operative to be rotatably driven by said
6 motor, said tines operative to gather sticks from the ground surface when
7 rotating and being towed over the ground surface;

8 a pair of wheels operative to support said frame on the ground surface;

9 an adjustment mechanism disposed between said pair of wheels and
10 said frame to adjust the position of the elongated rotor with respect to the
11 ground surface; and

12 a basket for holding the sticks collected from the ground surface by the
13 gathering device.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the gathering device further
2 comprises a shield for preventing the collected sticks from being ejected out
3 from said gathering device.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the tines include distal ends
2 that are bent outwardly toward a direction of rotation of the rotor.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the basket is a hinged basket
2 adapted to be selectably attachable to the gathering device.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the tines have a diameter of
2 ½-1½ inches and a length of 5-9 inches.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the gathering device is
2 further operative for thatching a lawn.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the elongated rotor is
2 selectably attachable to the gathering device.